



U.S. Department of Justice

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NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian, together with Lev Kubiak, Special Agent in Charge, Buffalo, New York Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and Brig. Gen. Colleen McGuire, the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, announced today the federal arrest of a Ft. Drum officer on child pornography charges.

A federal criminal complaint unsealed today charges LT. COL. CHRISTOPHER BUTLER, age 43, with knowingly possessing child pornography. The complaint filed in U.S. District Court against BUTLER alleges that in October, 2008, using the screen name "daddyformommies," BUTLER sent images of child pornography via the Internet to an undercover special agent of the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The complaint further alleges the investigation revealed that in February, 2009, BUTLER was offering for sharing over the internet four video files depicting known child pornography. The complaint further alleges that pursuant to a search warrant executed at his Ft. Drum residence in August, 2009, forensic examination of computers seized revealed that BUTLER possessed, and accessed with intent to view, over 200 images depicting child pornography, including those that were sent to the undercover agent in 2008.

BUTLER was arrested today, and made his initial appearance before Hon. David E. Peebles, United States Magistrate Judge. He was released to the supervision of the United States Probation Office.

BUTLER faces a maximum penalty of 10 years, a fine of up to \$250,000, and a required term

of supervised release of at least 5 years, and up to life. If convicted, BUTLER will also be required to register as a sex offender.

The charges are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

BUTLER'S arrest is the result of an investigation by the United States Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, and the New York State Police, as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

BUTLER is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa Fletcher, who can be reached at 448-0672.